IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An apparatus for processing one or more documents, comprising:

a color scanner ~~for creating~~ configured to create an image of each document;

a memory ~~for storing~~ configured to store one or more document processing instructions associated with the presence or absence of one or more color swatches within the image; and

a processor coupled to the color scanner and the memory, the processor ~~controlling~~ configured to control the color scanner, ~~determining~~ to determine whether one or more color swatches are present or absent in the image and ~~executing~~ to execute the document processing instructions associated with the presence or absence of the one or more color swatches, wherein one or more of the document processing instructions are used for document identification.

Claim 2 (Original): The apparatus as recited in claim 1 wherein the processor removes the one or more color swatches from the image.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The apparatus as recited in claim 1 further comprising a storage device ~~for saving~~ configured to save the image.

Claim 4 (Original): The apparatus as recited in claim 1 wherein the document processing instructions indicate how the image will be stored.

Claim 5 (Original): The apparatus as recited in claim 1 wherein the document processing instructions indicate where the image will be stored.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The apparatus as recited in claim 1 further comprising:

a document sorter coupled to the processor;

a document feeder coupled to the color scanner, the processor and the document sorter; and

the processor further ~~controlling~~ configured to control the document sorter and document feeder.

Claim 7 (Original): The apparatus as recited in claim 1 wherein the document processing instructions indicate how the documents are to be sorted.

Claim 8 (Original): The apparatus as recited in claim 1 wherein the color swatch is pre-printed.

Claim 9 (Original): The apparatus as recited in claim 6 wherein the color swatch is applied mechanically.

Claim 10 (Original): The apparatus as recited in claim 6 wherein the color swatch is applied manually.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A method for processing one or more documents, comprising ~~the steps of~~:

creating an image of each document;

determining whether one or more color swatches are present or absent in the image; and

executing one or more document processing instructions associated with the presence or absence of the one or more color swatches, wherein one or more of the document processing instructions are used for document identification.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The method as recited in claim 11 further comprising ~~the step of~~ removing the one or more color swatches from the image.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The method as recited in claim 11 further comprising ~~the step of~~ saving the image.

Claim 14 (Original): The method as recited in claim 11 wherein the document processing instructions indicate how the image will be stored.

Claim 15 (Original): The method as recited in claim 11 wherein the document processing instructions indicate where the image will be stored.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): The method as recited in claim 11 further comprising ~~the step of~~ sorting the document based on the document processing instructions.

Claim 17 (Original): The method as recited in claim 11 wherein the document processing instructions indicate how the documents are to be sorted.

Claim 18 (Original): The method as recited in claim 11 wherein the color swatch is pre-printed.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): The method as recited in claim 11 further comprising the step of applying one or more color swatches to the document.

Claim 20 (Original): The method as recited in claim 19 wherein the color swatch is applied mechanically.

Claim 21 (Original): The method as recited in claim 19 wherein the color swatch is applied manually.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): A computer program embodied on a computer-readable medium for processing one or more documents comprising:

a code segment for creating an image of each document;

a code segment for determining whether one or more color swatches are present or absent in the image; and

a code segment for executing one or more document processing instructions associated with the presence or absence of the one or more color swatches, wherein one or more of the document processing instructions are used for document identification.

Claim 23 (Original): The computer program as recited in claim 22 further comprising a code segment for removing the one or more color swatches from the image.

Claim 24 (Original): The computer program as recited in claim 22 further comprising a code segment for saving the image.

Claim 25 (Original): The computer program as recited in claim 22 wherein the document processing instructions indicate how the image will be stored.

Claim 26 (Original): The computer program as recited in claim 22 wherein the document processing instructions indicate where the image will be stored.

Claim 27 (Original): The computer program as recited in claim 22 further comprising a code segment for sorting the document based on the document processing instructions.

Claim 28 (Original): The computer program as recited in claim 22 wherein the document processing instructions indicate how the documents are to be sorted.

Claim 29 (Original): The computer program as recited in claim 22 wherein the color swatch is pre-printed.

Claim 30 (Original): The computer program as recited in claim 22 further comprising a code segment for applying one or more color swatches to the document.

Claim 31 (New): The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein one or more of the document processing instructions indicate a lead page of each document.

Claim 32 (New): The method as recited in claim 11, wherein one or more of the document processing instructions indicate a lead page of each document.

Claim 33 (New): The computer program as recited in claim 22, wherein one or more of the document processing instructions indicate a lead page of each document.

Claim 34 (New): The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein one or more of the color swatches exist within the interior portion of the image.

Claim 35 (New): The method as recited in claim 11, wherein one or more of the color swatches exist within the interior portion of the image.

Claim 36 (New): The computer program as recited in claim 22, wherein one or more of the color swatches exist within the interior portion of the image.